## REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the Final Office Action mailed July 13, 2005 in the application. Claims 1-41 are pending.

The Examiner has rejected applicant's claims 1-12, 18-30 and 36-41 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Cragun, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,804,803). The Examiner has also rejected applicant's claims 13, 14, 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cragun, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,804,803) in view of Reber, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,940,595 and claims 15, 16, 17, 33, 34 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cragun, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,804,803) in view of Schneck, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,498). With respect to applicant's claims, the Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant's independent claim 1 recites a web browser apparatus comprising image storing means for storing an input image of an inputted physical medium, the inputted image including an action identification code and a filled-in image, the filled-in image being filled in the physical medium by a user, action identification code analyzing means for analyzing the action identification code included in the input image stored in said image storing means, the action identification code being used for deciding a next action, action deciding means for deciding the next action based on the analyzed action identification code and the filled-in image included in the input image, obtaining means for obtaining web page data from a web server in accordance with the next action decided by the action deciding means, action identification code generating means for generating an action identification code based on the obtained web page data, the action identification code being used for deciding a next action, output image preparing means for preparing an output image including the generated action

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identification code based on the obtained web page data, and print controlling means for controlling such that the output image prepared by the output image preparing means is printed on a physical medium. Applicant's claims 19, 38 and 40 recite similar features.

Applicant's independent claim 18 recites a web browser apparatus comprising obtaining means for obtaining web page data from a web server, <u>action identification code generating means for generating an action identification code based on the obtained web page data, the action identification code being used for deciding a next action,</u> output image preparing means for preparing an output image including the generated action identification code based on the obtained web page data, and print controlling means for controlling such that the output image prepared by the output image preparing means is printed on a physical medium. Applicant's independent claims 36, 37, 39 and 41 recite similar features.

The constructions recited in applicant's independent claims 1, 18, 19 and 36-41 are not taught or suggested by the cited art of record. In particular, with respect to applicant's independent claims 1, 19, 38 and 40, the Cragun, et al. reference fails to teach or suggest an image inputted from an inputted physical medium which includes an action identification code and a <u>filled-in image, the filled-in image being filled in the physical medium by a user</u> and the action identification code being used for deciding a next action. The Examiner has cited column 3, lines 56-64, column 4, lines 29-44, column 8, line 63 to column 9, line 10 and column 11, lines 28-47 of Cragun, et al. as disclosing "an input buffer to store a code from a tangible object and a filled-in form filled in by a user, a code is an image." Applicant has reviewed these passages of Cragun, et al. and respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's argument.

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Specifically, column 3, lines 56-64, column 4, lines 29-44 and column 11, lines 28-47 disclose use of a scanning device to optically scan a bar code on an object and a bar code on a customer card. The passage on column 8, line 63-column 9, line 10 discloses that in response to a URL obtained from, or associated with, the scanned bar code, a document, such as web page may contain a fill-in form for a user to input additional user information. Thus, these passages of the Cragun, et al. patent only disclose inputting and buffering of a code by scanning a bar code, and displaying a fill-in form in response to a URL obtained from the code of the bar code. Even if, as argued by the Examiner, the scanned code is an image, such scanned bar code image is merely pre-printed code on the object and does not constitute a "filled-in image being filled in the physical medium by a user," as defined in applicant's claims 1, 19, 38 and 40. Neither does the fill-in form displayed in a document obtained in response to a URL encoded in the bar code, constitute the "filled in-image" of applicant's claims because this fill-in form is not part the input image of an inputted physical medium. Rather, the fill-in form in Cragun, et al. is obtained from the network or a remote server in response to the URL obtained from the bar code (Col. 8, lines 52-67), and is not included the input image of the inputted physical medium.

Further, a data-filled form (240) of the URL, which is created by a processing program (110) by filling in expanded form (230) URL with data, is not a "filled-in image" as recited in applicant's claims 1, 19, 38 and 40, and their respective dependent claims. Particularly, in Cragun, et al., the bar code being scanned from the object can include an abbreviated form (220) of a URL or an expanded form (230) of the URL (Col. 6, lines 1-3), and if, when the bar code is scanned, the abbreviated form is obtained, it is processed into the expanded form. If the expanded form includes a query field, the processing program (110) of Cragun, et al.

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generates the "data-filled form" by automatically inputting a field value corresponding to the query field from a customer data record (108). See, Col. 6, lines 37-67. That is, as understood by referring to FIG. 2 of Cragun, et al, the value from the customer data record is assigned to the character string of the expanded form URL (e.g., http://26,43.60.77/??LANGUAGE??& ??CNAME??&?CAGE??), and the data-filled form URL is generated (e.g., http://26.43.60.77/LANGUAGE=Spanish&CNAME=Smith,+John&CAGE=47). Therefore, the data-filled form of the URL in Cragun, et al. denotes the character string generated when data is inputted into the URL obtained from the bar code, and thus the bar code only includes the URL code and not any data-filled form. Accordingly, the Cragun, et al. does not teach or suggest the filled-in image included in the input image.

Moreover, there is nothing taught or suggested in the Cragun, et al. patent of deciding the next action based on the analyzed action identification code and the filled-in image included in the input image. The Examiner has cited column 5, line 53 to column 7, line 14 and column 8, line 63 to column 9, line 10 as disclosing "processing of the scanned code and customer filled-in form, processing involves deciding a next action." Applicant again respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's argument. As argued above, the Cragun, et al. patent merely discloses a customer fill-in form being displayed as part of a document obtained in response to the scanned bar code and does not teach or suggest a "filled-in image included in the input image." Therefore, Cragun, et al. does not, and cannot, teach or suggest deciding the next action based on an analyzed action identification code and the filled in image included in the input image.

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Applicant's independent claims 1, 19, 38 and 40, all of which recite one or more of the above features, and their respective dependent claims, thus patentably distinguish over the Cragun, et al. patent.

With respect to all of applicant's independent claims, i.e. claims 1, 18, 19, 36-41, the cited art of record also fails to teach or suggest <u>generating an action identification code based on obtained web page data, the action identification code being used for deciding a next action</u>, preparing an output image including the generated action identification code based on the obtained web page data, and controlling such that the output image prepared by the output image preparing means is printed on a physical medium. The Examiner has cited column 4, lines 19-30 and column 8, line 46-column 9, line 16 of Cragun, et al. as disclosing these features of applicant's invention, and argued that Cragun, et al. discloses creating and generating additional encoded URLs in data-filled web page form to process continuously, and that creating or generating additional encoded URLs involves preparing an action identification code. Applicant has reviewed the passages cited by the Examiner and believes that the Examiner's interpretation of the reference is in error.

In particular, column 8, line 46-column 9, line 16 of Cragun, et al. disclose that the document displayed in response to a URL encoded in a scanned bar code, may be in a form of a web page and could contain additional URLs of documents that a customer could request. A URL, or Uniform Resource Locator, identifies a location address for a document (See, Col. 5, lines 58-63). The additional URLs generated by system in Cragun, et al. are, therefore, merely addresses that can be used to access additional documents and are not codes for deciding any action. Therefore, the additional URLs of Cragun, et al. are <u>not action identification codes that are used for deciding a next action</u>, and there is nothing taught or suggested in Cragun, et al.

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of generating such action identification codes. Accordingly, there is also no, and cannot be any, teaching or suggestion in Cragun, et al. of preparing an output image including the generated action identification code based on the obtained web page data or of controlling such that the output image is printed on a physical medium.
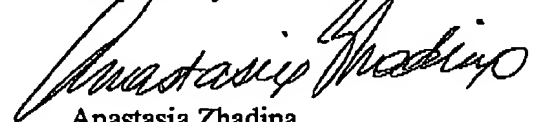
Applicant's independent claims 1, 18, 19 and 36-41, all of which disclose one or more of the above features, and their respective dependent claims, thus patentably distinguish over the Cragun, et al. patent. Moreover, there is nothing taught or suggested in the Reber, et al. or the Schenk, et al. references to change this conclusion. It is therefore requested that the rejection of claims 1-41 be withdrawn.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application, a request is made that the Examiner telephone applicant's counsel at (212) 790-9286.

Dated:  September 13, 2005                           Respectfully submitted,

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